



TALKING POINTS ON IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL

The President is threatening a veto of a bill funding for our troops, instead of working with Congress on a reasonable approach to change the course of the Iraq War. Following are talking points, laying out some of the key facts.

- Both the House and Senate wartime spending bills give the President every penny he requested for our troops.
- Both the House and Senate wartime spending bills require accountability - for the first time since the Iraq war began. The House bill requires the Iraqi government to meet the President's own benchmarks and the troops to meet the President's own standards for readiness.
- The President wants a blank check to continue the war without end and is now threatening to veto funding for our troops in order to avoid accountability.
- Democrats and the American people want accountability and a safe and responsible end to the war.
- House and Senate leaders are actively negotiating the two spending bills and continue to ask the President to join in a constructive dialogue, instead of a war of words.
- A recent report from the Congressional Research Service (3/28/07) concludes that the Army could maintain its wartime operations well into July with funds the Army has already been provided.

As of April 5, it has been 59 days since the President sent his request for funding for the troops to Congress. In 2006, it took the Republican-controlled Congress 119 days to send the Iraq supplemental to the President; in 2005, it took them 86 days. And yet the President never attacked the Republican-controlled Congress

for “holding up” funding for the troops.

Attached is a fact sheet that will be useful in responding to questions on the domestic funding in the Iraq Supplemental.

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